

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-11 RSC-01

OIC-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 EB-11

OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 CEA-02 CIEP-02 SIL-01 LAB-06

DRC-01 /214 W

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R 311552Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2544

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UN; ECLA; XM

SUBJECT: ECLA: EIGHT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SESSION;

JANUARY 24-25, 1974; NEW YORK

REF: USUN 0264

1. UN'S ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA (ECLA), AT
SUBJECT MEETING, ACHIEVED MOST AIMS AS LAID OUT BY EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, DESPITE A FEW DISAPPOINTMENTS FOR
SOME LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS. THERE WERE, IN ADDITION, TWO
BACKGROUND PROBLEMS, BOTH OF WHICH WERE FAR MORE POLITICAL
THAN ECONOMIC: (A) CUBA'S STRONGLY-STATED PROPOSAL THAT ALL
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UN OFFICES BE REMOVED FROM SANTIAGO (REFTEL) AND (B)
FAMILIAR EFFORTS OF SOME LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS TO EXCLUDE NON-

REGIONAL ECLA MEMBERS (US, UK, FRANCE, DUTCH, CANADA) FROM SOME ECLA OR ECLA-RELATED ACTIVITIES. NO FINAL ACTION TAKEN ON EITHER SUBJECT,

BUT MORE WILL BE HEARD ABOUT BOTH OVER NEXT YEAR.

2. FOLLOWING WAS ACTION ON MAJOR AGENDA ITEMS;

(A) CONSOLIDATION WITH ECLA OF LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING (ILPES): WHAT IGLESIAS, WE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES HAD HOPED WAS ACHIEVED IN RESOLUTION ON CONSOLIDATION. ALTHOUGH RETAINING ITS "SEPARATE IDENTITY," ILPES BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL OF IGLESIAS, WHO WILL REPRESENT IT BEFORE GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER INTERESTED PRIVATE AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS GIVE OVER-ALL SUPERVISION TO ILPES DIRECTOR. RESOLUTION RECOMMENDS TO UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL THAT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BE MADE EXECUTING AGENCY FOR LARGE UNDP GRANT TO ILPES. THIS PROPOSAL WAS FOUGHT VIGOROUSLY BY UNDP REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR GABRIEL VALDES, WHO INSISTED THAT MAKING AN ORGANIZATION EXECUTING AGENT FOR ITS OWN PROJECT WAS A BAD PRECEDENT. IN FACT, VALDES OBJECTED BECAUSE HE WANTED PERSONALLY TO CONTROL ILPES FROM NEW YORK. DESPITE SEVERAL COMPROMISE EFFORTS BY VALDES, MOST DELEGATIONS (AND CHAIRMAN OF WORKING GROUP) SUPPORTED U.S. INITIATIVE ON THIS SUBJECT AND SO RECOMMENDATION WITH OUR WORDING, DESIGNED TO FURTHER CENTRALIZE CONTROL IN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S HANDS, WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

OPEN IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR 1975 ECLA PLENARY SESSION. ECLA-ILPES RESOLUTION, AS DRAFTED BY SECRETARIAT, PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF LATIN AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMPOSED OF MINISTERS OF PLANNING OF LATIN AMERICAN REGION. ITS DUTY WAS TO OVERSEE ILPES ACTIVITIES. WE SUGGESTED SUCH A HIGH LEVEL BODY SHOULD CONSIDER ALL ECLA PLANNING PROJECTS, AS ILPES ALONE WOULD BE LIMITED SPHERE OF RESPONSIBILITY. WE ALSO INSISTED THAT COMMITTEE, WHICH RESOLUTION DESCRIBED AS "SUBSIDIARY BODY OF ECLA," MUST INCLUDE ALL ECLA MEMBERS, RATHER THAN JUST THOSE FROM LATIN AMERICAN REGION. MANY HOURS WERE SPENT IN WORKING GROUP ON THIS ISSUE. FINAL COMPROMISE WAS "PROVISIONAL" (UNTIL 1975 PLENARY) AND ESTABLISHED A TECHNICAL LEVEL WORKING GROUP OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS TO OVERSEE ILPES.

(B) REGIONAL ENERGY CONFERENCE: IGLESIAS' ORIGINAL HOPE ON THIS SUBJECT HAD BEEN TO CALL ECLA-SPONSORED REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS ON REPERCUSSIONS OF ENERGY CRISIS. BY TIME HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ARRIVED IN NEW YORK FROM BRAZIL VISIT, HOWEVER, HIS DRAFT WAS MUCH VAGUER, LARGELY, HE COMMENTED PRIVATELY, BECAUSE BRAZIL DID NOT WANT UPSET ARABS BY WAVING LATIN AMERICAN FLAG. DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, DESPITE INITIAL AGREEMENT WITH IGLESIAS DRAFT, FURTHER WATERED DOWN POSSIBLE ECLA INVOLVEMENT IN ENERGY. MAIN CONCERN OF MOST LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS THERE WAS THAT DEEP ECLA INVOLVEMENT IN ENERGY AFFAIRS WOULD WEAKEN POSITION OF NEW LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY ORGANIZATION (OLADE), WHICH MANY THOUGHT WAS MORE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL FORUM. THUS IN END ECLA URGED ONLY TO UNDERTAKE ACCELERATED RESEARCH PROGRAM

ON ENERGY, TO CONSULT NATIONAL EXPERTS ON SUBJECT, AND
TO COOPERATE WITH OLADE.

(C) REGIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION CONFERENCE; APPROVAL
GIVEN TO CALLING IN LATE 1974 (PROBABLY IN MEXICO CITY) ECLA MEETING
ON INDUSTRIALIZATION TO CONSIDER PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD
CONFERENCE (UNIDO II) SCHEDULED FOR LIMA IN 1975.

(D) ECLA BRANCH OFFICES: ALTHOUGH NOT ON AGENDA, RESOLUTION
URGING STRENGTHENING OF BRANCH OFFICES AND THANKING ARGENTINA
FOR ITS OFFER TO OPEN BRANCH THERE WAS TABLED AND APPROVED.
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